

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INR-07 DODE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 L-02

ACDA-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 SS-15 NSC-05 OIC-02 /063 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

INFO USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

S E C R E T STATE 105961

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE: WARNING OF WAR

REF: USNATO 2480

1. APPRECIATE YOUR EFFORTS TO IMPROVE WARNING OF
WAR SECTION IN DRAFT MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE. COMPROMISE
SUGGESTED IS BEING EXAMINED HERE, BUT FINAL VIEWS
WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL FRIDAY, MAY 9. WHILE
WE HOPE SECRETARY GENERAL CAN DELAY PUBLICATION OF
DOCUMENT PENDING YOUR RECEIPT OF FINAL INSTRUCTIONS,
YOU MAY RESERVE ON PARAS 22 AND 23 IF TIMING BECOMES
A FACTOR.

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2. FYI: OUR BASIC PROBLEM IS THE UTILIZATION OF A NUMBER IN PARA 22 WHICH IS NOT CONTAINED IN MC 161/75 DRAFT. A DELIBERATE EFFORT WAS MADE IN THE DRAFTING OF MC 161/75 TO ELIMINATE ASSUMPTIONS AS TO NUMBERS OF DAYS OF WARSAW PACT PREPARATION TIME. IN PLACE OF NUMBERS OF DAYS, THE 75 DRAFT TEXT DISCUSSES THE VARIOUS ACTIONS WHICH THE WARSAW PACT MUST TAKE IN ITS PREPARATIONS. WE RECOGNIZE THE LANGUAGE IN PARA 22 AS A PARTIAL QUOTE FROM THE NOVEMBER 1974 MILITARY APPRECIATION (PARA 28, ENCLOSURE TO MCM-78-74),

WHICH WAS BASED ON MC 161/74. A FULLER QUOTE FROM THE MILITARY APPRECIATION WOULD HAVE INCLUDED THE ADDITIONAL STATEMENT THAT "CONVERSELY UNDER CONDITIONS OF DELIBERATE PREPARATIONS FOR A MAXIMUM EFFORT INVOLVING MORE THAN THE FORCES IN EAST EUROPE AND THE THREE WESTERN DISTRICTS OF THE USSR, WARSAW PACT ARMED FORCES COULD BE POSITIONED FOR ATTACK IN ABOUT THREE WEEKS." MINISTERIAL ACCEPTANCE OF THE ONE NUMBER IN PARA 22 COULD AMOUNT TO ESTABLISHMENT OF A PRIMARY PLANNING CASE FOR NATO DEFENSE, WITH OBVIOUS IMPLICATIONS FOR RESERVE FORCES, WHEREAS WE CONTINUE TO HOLD THAT NATO MUST PREPARE AGAINST A RANGE OF CONTINGENCIES. END FYI.

3. IN DISCUSSION OF WARNING OF WAR COVERAGE OF MC 161/75 DRAFT, WE PREFER TO EMPHASIZE COVERAGE OF PAR I, SECTION 6 IN ITS TOTALITY; PARA 15 OF THAT SECTION IS INSUFFICIENT IN ITSELF.

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